

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before the second full paragraph "The invention concerns ..." insert the heading

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Page 2, before the third full paragraph "To overcome ..." insert the heading
SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Page 3, before the third full paragraph "The characteristics of the ..." insert the heading

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Page 4, before line 1, insert the heading
DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Page 5, before the first full paragraph "In Fig. 3 ..." insert the following new paragraph

Since, as noted above and shown in Fig. 2, the rubber mix M_3 of the third layer makes direct contact with the metallic elements E_1 , E_2 of the first and second layers, it will be apparent that the rubber mix M_3 serves to partially embed one side of each of the metallic elements E_1 , E_2 and thus the third layer must be of at least the same width as the first and second layers, i.e., the third layer is not of less width than the first and second layers. It will be appreciated that each of the first layer's metallic elements E_1 is always disposed radially outwardly of the third layer C_3 as viewed in a radial plane P_1 containing that element E_1 . Also, each of the second layer's metallic elements E_2 is always disposed radially inwardly of the third layer C_3 as viewed in a radial plane P_2 containing that element E_2 (see Figs. 1 and 2).